Message Text

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PAGE 01 FREETO 01224 141309Z ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 TRSE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15 STR-04 CEA-01 L-03 AGRE-00 /093 W

-----142046Z 070301 /46

R 141245Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY FREETOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5174
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE FREETOWN 1224

EO 11652: NA TAGS: EFIN. SL

SUBJ: POSSIBILITY OF IMF STANDBY FOR SIERRA LEONE

REF: (A) STATE 62737, (B) 76 FREETOWN 4143

1. RECENT VISIT OF IMF TEAM TO FREETOWN RAISED HOPES THAT SIERRA LEONE WILL SOON OBTAIN STANDBY AGREEMENT FROM IMF. GOSL OFFICIALS ARE GENERALLY OPTIMISTIC THAT AGREEMENT WILL BE FORTHCOMING. MEETINGS BETWEEN IMF AND GOSL OFFICIAL REPORTEDLY MUCH MORE CORDIAL THAN MEETINGS IN DECEMBER (REFTEL B). IMF SEEMED PLEASED WITH GOSL EFFORTS TO REDUCE EXPENDITURES AND IMPORTS AND INCREASE TAX REVENUE.

2. TEAM ALSO SEEMED TO ACCEPT THAT IT IS NOT POLITICALLY FEASIBLE FOR GOSL TO COMPLY WITH VERY STRINGENT CONDITIONS MENTIONED IN DECEMBER, I.E., DEVALUATION, 15 PERCENT CUT IN CIVIL SERVICE SALARIES AND LARGE REDUCTION OF NUMBER OF CIVIL SERVANTS.

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IMF WAS ENCOURAGED BY PROJECTED INCREASE IN FOREIGN EXCHANGE EARNINGS FROM COFFEE AND COCOA FOR 1977. FOREIGN EXCHANGE EARNINGS FROM COFFEE ALONE ARE PROJECTED AT LE 21 MILLION (US DOL 18 M), ABOUT THREE TIMES THE 1976 LEVEL. FINAL RECOMMENDATION OF THE IMF TEAM IS NOT EXPECTED FOR SEVERAL WEEKS, POSSIBLY AFTER ELECTIONS, MAY 6. SAMUELS

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: ECONOMIC CONDITIONS, TRADE VISITS, LOAN AGREEMENTS, BALANCE OF PAYMENTS

Control Number: n/a

Copy: SINGLE Sent Date: 14-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am

Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 22 May 2009 Disposition Event: Disposition Event:
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977FREETO01224
Document Source: CORE

Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Expiration: Film Number: D770130-0298 Format: TEL From: FREETOWN Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770458/aaaabyky.tel

Line Count: 62 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: dd2db2a5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION EB

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a

Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: 77 STATE 62737, 76 FREETOWN 4143

Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags: Review Date: 02-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 2809963 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: POSSIBILITY OF IMF STANDBY FOR SIERRA LEONE

TAGS: EFIN, SL, IMF

To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/dd2db2a5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

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